

Re: Hello Again

Subject: Re: Hello Again

From: Bradley Manning (b) (6)

Date: Thu, 20 May 2010 01:51:20 +0300

To: Eric Schmiedl (b) (6)

You're absolutely right, and I totally agree with you. Though overall, I'm glad it was released, and glad it made an impact. Assange learned a lot from that, and I criticized him.

Though, none of the actual written text in the video is inaccurate. Assange has more material on the topic, which due to source protection paranoia was not released. Some other material is wedged inside of the entire database of events for the Iraq War from 01 JAN 2004 to 31 DEC 2009. Approximately 500,000 incident reports.

He also has 260,000 State Department cables. He's got dirt on every diplomat and head-of-state on the planet from the mid-90s to MAY 1, 2010. I

On 5/20/10 1:35 AM, Eric Schmiedl wrote:

Huh. My objection to "Collateral Murder" is that murder is such a strong word that it overshadows the meaning of a "squishy" word like collateral... so that my reading of the phrase is something like "collateral damage is accidental killing of civilians. This is outright MURDER of civilians." That's a pretty strong accusation to make with no clear evidence that it was intentional (the definition of murder), so in my mind the "collateral murder" tagline reduces the overall credibility.

Basically: right at the beginning, you're making unsupported allegations... how am I supposed to believe the rest?

In comparison, releasing the video without embellishment, and a mere listing of known facts (no firefights in the area, Reuters reporter among the group, etc) lets people put their own interpretation on it. Often, what people imagine is far more shocking than the truth, as horror film directors know all too well... and when you add political blogs to the mix, who knows?

On 5/19/10 6:22 PM, Bradley Manning wrote:

Good question.

There's a few answers I have to various other questions as well:

1. I approved the edits without actually viewing the video. (Had a written description.)
2. I "saw" an RPG and many, many more weapons the first time I saw the video. I was numb. I explored it further, and found out what actually happened later. I wanted the video to challenge that cognitive bias that every young Iraqi male is an insurgent.
3. I instructed there to be an Orwell quote, description of the journalists, and some general context. Assange came up with "Collateral Murder," with my approval. It literally means "unintentional murder."
4. Public Relations is an area WikiLeaks needed some desperate help in, since the only people who had heard of them before were people in the hacker, journalist, and intelligence communities.
5. Video personally pissed off Assange, and he wanted to "get out of exhile."

On 5/20/10 1:02 AM, Eric Schmiedl wrote:

Cool. Why all the PR spin over "collateral murder," when releasing it straight like previous leaks might have ended up winning more controversy?

On 5/19/10 5:50 PM, Bradley Manning wrote:

I was the source of the 12 JUL 07 video from the Apache Weapons Team, which killed the two journalists and injured two kids.

=L

On 5/20/10 12:46 AM, Eric Schmiedl wrote:

Yeah, I am.

On 5/19/10 5:46 PM, Bradley Manning wrote:

Are you familiar with WikiLeaks?

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v/r

Manning, Bradley E.

On 5/20/10 12:41 AM, Eric Schmiedl wrote:

pass

On 5/19/10 5:41 PM, Bradley Manning wrote:

Test

On 5/20/10 12:37 AM, Eric Schmiedl wrote:

Here you go. Enjoy!

On 5/19/10 5:36 PM, Bradley Manning wrote:

Hey Eric,

It's been a little while since we last spoke. I was hoping I could get your OpenPGP info somehow... If you use it.

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v/r

Manning, Bradley E.

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v/r

Manning, Bradley E.

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v/r

Manning, Bradley E.

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v/r

Manning, Bradley E.

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v/r

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v/r

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